



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
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TO: LORI GLASGOW
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation 

FROM: ROGER H. GRANBO
Senior Assistant County Counsel
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Helen Jones, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 431 634

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached is the Case Summary to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation and the Case Summary be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

RHG:scr

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Helen Jones, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 431 634 in the amount of \$2,000,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This lawsuit alleges negligence, wrongful death, and civil rights violations arising out of the death of an inmate while incarcerated at Men's Central Jail.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Helen Jones, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC 431634
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court Case
DATE FILED	February 10, 2010
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 2,000,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Law Offices of Lisa Maki Law Offices of Dennis P. Wilson The Luti Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Millicent L. Rolon Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$2,000,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a civil rights lawsuit filed by Helen Jones against the County, former Sheriff Lee Baca, Sergeant Cliff Yates, and Sheriff's Deputies William Penhollow and Christopher Kidder alleging negligence, wrongful death, and State-law civil rights violations based on the death of John Horton, Ms. Jones' son, while he was incarcerated at Men's Central Jail.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. Therefore, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$2,000,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 644,262
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 67,302